

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 IO-13 ACDA-19 SSC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 AID-20 RSR-01 /135 W

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R 201141Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 529

INFO AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PK

SUBJ: CHANGES IN CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

1. CONTRARY TO WIDESPREAD SPECULATION COMPOSITION OF CENTRAL AND PROVINCIAL MINISTRIES REMAINED UNCHANGED AFTER COMING INTO FORCE OF NEW CONSTITUTION. FOUR PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS (KHAR, LIAQUAT, KHATTAK AND BUGTI) RETAINED POSITIONS AS DID EXISTING PROVINCIAL CHIEF MINISTERS. PORTFOLIOS IN CENTER ALSO WENT UNCHANGED.

2. AUGUST 19, GOP ANNOUNCED RETIREMENT 16 SENIOR CIVIL OFFICIALS AND DISMISSAL OF TWO. AMONG THOSE RETIRED WERE: GHIA UDDIN AHMAD, SECRETARY GENERAL DEFENSE; SUFI, CABINET SECRETARY; QAMAR UL ISLAM, DEPUTY CHAIRMAN, PLANNING; IQBAL HOSAIN, SECRETARY ECONOMIC AFFAIRS DIVISION AS WELL AS FOUR OTHER SECRETARIES. PRESS NOTE ANNOUNCING RETIREMENTS STATED "THE GOVERNMENT HAVE LAUNCHED A PROGRAMME OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC REFORMS AND IN ORDER THAT THESE REFORMS ARE IMPLEMENTED EFFECTIVELY AND WITH ALL SPEED, IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT THE MEN ENTRUSTED WITH THIS VITAL NATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY SHOULD POSSESS

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GENUINE PROFESSIONAL CAPABILITY AND EXPERIENCE. THE

GOVERNMENT IS DETERMINED THAT THESE REFORMS SHALL NOT BE FRUSTRATED AND IT IS, THEREFORE, ESSENTIAL THAT THERE SHOULD BE AN EFFICIENT AND DYNAMIC ADMINISTRATIVE MACHINERY.

"AS A FIRST STEP, IT HAS BEEN DECIDED TO BRING ABOUT CHANGES AT TOP LEVEL POSTS OF SECRETARIES AND ADDITIONAL SECRETARIES. THE SERVICES OF SOME OF THE OFFICERS WHO HAD BEEN RE-EMPLOYED BEYOND THE AGE OF 58 HAVE BEEN TERMINATED. SOME SENIOR OFFICERS, WHO HAD COMPLETED 25 YEARS SERVICE, HAVE BEEN PLACED ON THE RETIREMENT LIST."

3. AMONG NEW APPOINTMENTS NAMED WERE: VAQAR AHMED, SECRETARY CABINET AND ESTABLISHMENT; MAJ. GENERAL (RETIRED) FAZUL MUQUEEM, DEFENSE SECRETARY; V.A. JAFAREY, SECRETARY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT; AND AFTAB AHMAD KHAN, SECRETARY ECONOMIC AFFAIRS. A.G. N. KAZI HAS BEEN DESIGNATED SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR FINANCE AND ECONOMIC COORDINATION.

4. COMMENT: NUMBER OF MINISTERIAL CHANGES WILL EVENTUALLY BE NECESSITATED BY PROVISIONS OF NEW CONSTITUTION. MAJOR SHIFTS IN CIVIL SERVICE POSITIONS FOLLOWED AUGUST 18 ANNOUNCEMENT OF APPOINTMENT OF 121 NEW OFFICERS TO PAKISTAN FOREIGN SERVICE AND 99 NEW OFFICERS TO CENTRAL SECRETARIAT POSTS. INITIAL MISSION REACTION TO CHANGES ANNOUNCED IS THAT OVERALL NEW SECRETARIES, ETC., PROBABLY REPRESENT IMPROVEMENT OVER THEIR PREDECESSORS. RUMORED THAT THIS IS FIRST INSTALLMENT OF CHANGES IN CENTRAL CIVIL SERVICES AND LARGER LIST OF RETIREES AND DISMISSALS IN OFFING. BHUTTO WILL DISCUSS BUREAUCRACY INTER ALIA IN RADIO/TELEVISION SPEECH AUGUST 20.
SOBER

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